

insurrection of national dignity, the revolt of dynamic youth against moribund middle-class mediocrity. The old gang of Liberal Italy, Giolitti, Orlando, Bonomi, Facta, are dismissed with contempt while Nitti is pursued with cries of rancorous hate. The Socialists, the Popukri, the Liberals, the Conservatives are all brushed disdainfully aside as out of date. He admits that Matteotti was murdered by Fascists, but explains that they were completely outside the responsible elements of the party. After six years of power he looks back with pride and forward with boundless confidence. ** Mine is a policy of peace. To-day in Italy we breathe the open air; life is exposed to the light of day. I am forty-five and I feel the vigour of my work and my thought. I have annihilated in myself every egotism. I feel that all Italians understand and love me; I know that only he is loved who leads without weakness, without deviation, with disinterestedness and full faith." Such are the illusions of our supermen.

Hitler's autobiography, the last item on our list^ is in a class by itself, for it was written several years before the author took the helm. *Mein Kampf* is thus a programme as well as a narrative. The first volume was dictated to his secretary, Rudolf Hess, during their brief imprisonment after the Munich *putsch* of 1923, the second was composed after his release. Beginning with his boyhood near Linz, he describes in detail his experiences in Vienna, where he learned to hate Jews and Marxists and to dream of uniting Teutonic Austria with the Reich. The move to Munich in 1912 was followed by volunteer service in the German army on the Western front. The granting of permission in response to his appeal is described as the happiest day of his life. The collapse of 1918, announced while he was suffering from gas in a Prussian hospital, inspired

him with the determination to raise his adopted
country from
the dust. If he had heard of Chatham he would
have adopted
his proud words : " I know that I can save my
country, and I
know that nobody else can." On leaving* the
army he began
his campaign in Munich and drew up the
National Socialist
programme in twenty-five points. In his own
words, he dis-
covered that he could speak. He describes
the growth of
his audiences, and on finding that two thousand
people had
come to hear him he was confident that the
battle was won.
Some day, he could not tell when, he would be
not merely
Chancellor but the effective ruler of his country.